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## RECENT CASES.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW—CHARGE FOR INSPECTION—PATAPSCO GUANO CO. v. BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, 18 Sup. Ct. Rep. 562.—Evidence tending to show that money collected under an inspection law was in part applied to other purposes than paying for the inspection, does tend to show that the money is taken as a tax on Interstate Commerce, rather than as a charge for inspection, in the absence of proof that the charge is so seriously in excess of what is necessary for the objects designed to be effected as to justify the imputation of bad faith. *Act of N. C., Jan. 21, 1891*, imposing an inspection tax of 25 cents a ton on fertilizers and making an inspection a prerequisite to a right to sell fertilizers, held constitutional.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW—INJUNCTION—HYDRAULIC MINING—NORTH BLOOMFIELD GRAVEL MINING CO. v. U. S., 88 FED. 664.—The United States has a right to regulate hydraulic mining to prevent injury to navigable waters. The mere fact that penalties are imposed on all parties found violating the provisions of 27, Stat. 507, prohibiting hydraulic mining, which would affect the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, except under government supervision, does not prevent the issuance of an injunction to protect the property rights of the government in the rivers.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW—MANDATORY INJUNCTION—"FRAUD ORDERS"—FAIRFIELD FLORAL CO. v. BRADBURY, 87 FED. REP. 415.—An injunction restraining defendant from continuing to interrupt the usual course of business in a post office by the non-delivery of letters to the persons to whom they are addressed and by returning them to their senders in accordance with a "fraud order" from the Postmaster-General, is not mandatory. *Obiter* the Statute by authority of which "fraud orders" are issued is unjust and unconstitutional.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW—MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS—EXPENDITURES IN AID OF INDIVIDUALS.—MERCER v. FLOYD, 53 N. Y. Supp. 433. The New York State Constitution forbids any municipality to give any money to or in aid of an individual, or to incur any debt except for municipal purposes. Therefore, a law is unconstitutional which provides that a municipality may raise by taxation money to reimburse tax collectors for tax moneys lost by the failure of the bank in which they were deposited.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW—REGULATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH—PLUMBERS' LICENSES—UNIFORMITY.—STATE v. GARDNER, 51 N. E. Rep. 136 (Ohio). Section 1, 92 Ohio Laws, p. 263, entitled "An act to promote the public health and regulate the sanitary construction of house drainage and plumbing," provides that "every person, firm, or corporation, engaged in the business of plumbing, shall first secure a license" . . . "in case of a firm or corporation, the examination and licensing of any one member of such firm, or the manager of such corporation, shall satisfy the requirements of the act." In an action for the violation of the above act, the court *held* the law to be unconstitutional. The right to labor and enjoy its fruits is a natural right, subject to reasonable regulation tending to secure the comfort, health or protection of the community. The pursuit of plumbing naturally falls under this regulation,